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NATIVE AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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BUILDING ECONOMIC SELF-DETERMINATION
IN INDIAN COMMUNITIES
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MARCH 3, 1849
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
1953
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
USA
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
1789
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIVE AMERICAN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

AUGUST 7, 1998

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Make sure he says something

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1998

NATIVE AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

DATE:	August 6, 1998
LOCATION:	Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C.
BRIEFING TIME:	12:45 pm - 1:15 pm
EVENT TIME:	1:35 pm - 2:50 pm
FROM:	Bruce Reed Mickey Ibarra Lynn Cutler

over 150 tribes

I. PURPOSE

To reaffirm your commitment to protecting tribal sovereignty and the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Tribes, and to promote and encourage economic self-determination in Indian country.

II. BACKGROUND

On Thursday, April 6, you will speak to approximately 800 tribal leaders, business representatives, and government personnel at a conference at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the White House (Domestic Policy Council and Office of Intergovernmental Affairs) and 15 federal agencies, entitled "Building Economic Self-Determination in Indian Communities." This event is the first time you have spoken in front of Native Americans since your meeting with tribal leaders in 1994.

Purpose and Structure of the Conference

This conference grew out of your meeting with tribal leaders on April 29, 1994, and the establishment of the Domestic Policy Council's (DPC) Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives. The conference will cover topics such as commerce in Indian country; building infrastructure and a positive climate for business; tribal self-government and economic self-determination; agriculture and economic development; rural business; community development in Indian country; electronic commerce; welfare-to-work initiatives; and tourism.

Background on American Indians and Alaska Natives

Indian America is made up of more than 550 tribes, with a total population of

approximately 2.4 million. Nearly half of the American Indian and Alaska Native population resides on 314 reservations, Indian lands, and Alaska Villages that make up Indian country.

While economic conditions in Indian country have improved in recent years, American Indian and with Alaska Native communities continue to lag behind the rest of the United States. For example, income levels of American Indians and Alaska Natives are substantially below those of all other Americans, with about 34 percent living below the poverty level. Factors such as geographical isolation, under-developed infrastructures, and demographic characteristics (nearly 40 percent of all American Indians are under the age of twenty) are responsible for these difficulties.

In your remarks, you will be make the following announcements:

- An executive order to improve the academic performance of American Indian and Alaska Native students in grades K-12. The order focuses special attention on improving student achievement in reading and mathematics.

- A directive to federal agencies to work in collaboration with tribal governments to: (1) prepare a report on the technology infrastructure needs in Indian country; (2) develop a strategic plan to coordinate economic development initiatives across agencies; and (3) initiate a project to help streamline the mortgage lending process in Indian country in order to improve access to mortgage loans on Indian reservations.

- A plan to direct $70 million to assist seven American Indian and Alaska Native tribes establish small start-up technology companies to obtain government contracts.

- A call to Congress to pass legislation to elevate the Director of the Indian Health Service to an Assistant Secretary. This change will strengthen the government-to-government relationships; facilitate communication and consultation with the Tribes on matters of Indian health; and raise awareness of Indian health concerns throughout HHS and the entire federal government.

- A change in the state-by-state allocation of the $24 billion in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to count Native American children appropriately. States receive a share of CHIP funds based on their proportion of uninsured children below 200 percent of poverty. When the Census Bureau produced these counts last September, it did not include Native American children with access to the Indian Health Service as "uninsured." Thus, even though such children are eligible for CHIP coverage, states with a large number of Native American children did not receive the appropriate share of funds. Revised allotments will be published in October.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Briefing Participants:
Bruce Reed
Mickey Ibarra
Lynn Cutler
Julie Fernandes
Mary Smith
Chris Jennings

Event Participants:
Dominic Ortiz, Lawrence, KS, is college student who owns and operates a wholesale Native American jewelry business

Standing on stage, but not speaking:
-Marge Anderson, CEO, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (MN)
-Walter Dasheno, Governor, Santa Clara Pueblo
-Frank Ettewagechik, Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (MI)
-Roland Harris, Chairman, Mohegan Tribe (CT)
-Kathryn Harrison, Chair, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (OR)
-Henry Kostzuta, Chairman, Apache Tribe of Oklahoma (OK)
-Ivan Makil, President, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (AZ)
-Mary Thomas, Governor, Gila River Indian Community (AZ)
-A. Brian Wallace, Chairman, Washoe Tribe of Nevada (NV)
-John Yellow Bird Steele, President, Oglala Lakota Nation (SD)

Persons Standing on Stage for Signing of Executive Order
-Michael Anderson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Dept. of Interior
-Dr. David Beaulieu, Director, Office of Indian Education, Dept. of Education
-Michael Cohen, Domestic Policy Council
-Lorraine Edmo, Executive Director, National Indian Education Association
-James Kohlmoos, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Dept. of Education
-Melodee McCoy, Native American Rights Fund
-Joann Sebastian Morris, Director, Office of Indian Education, Dept. of Interior
-Yvonne Novack, President, National Indian Education Association
-Sherry Dawn Red Owl, Rosebud Sioux
-Ernie Stevens, Jr., National Congress of American Indians
-Mary Smith, Domestic Policy Council

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Dominic Ortiz will make remarks and introduce **YOU**.
- **YOU** will make remarks.
- **YOU** then proceed to the desk on stage and sign the Native American education executive order.
-**YOU** then work a ropeline and depart.

*Before you enter the stage, **YOU** will take a photo with approximately 30 persons who worked on the Native American education executive order.

VI. REMARKS

Remarks Provided by Speechwriting.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

-Conference Agenda
-Participants List
-Background on American Indians and Alaska Natives

Building Economic Self-Determination in Indian Communities

August 6, 1998
Grand Hyatt Hotel
Washington, DC

8:30-8:45 a.m. **Opening**
- Honorable Ernie Stevens, Jr., Vice President, National Congress of American Indians

8:45-9:00 a.m. **Alaska Native Economic Development**
- Debra Call, Cook Inlet Region Inc.

9:00-9:30 a.m. **Banking in Indian Communities**
- Honorable Julie Williams, Acting Comptroller of the Currency, Dept. of Treasury
- Introduced by Rebecca Adamson, President, First Nations Development Institute

9:30-10:30 a.m. **Community Development in Indian Country**
- Dom Nessi, Director, BIA Economic Development, Dept. of Interior (Moderator)
- Honorable Bruce Morrison, Chairman, Federal Housing Finance Board
- Ellen Lazar, Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund
- Daniel Lewis, Senior Vice President, Bank of America NT & SA
- Elouise Cobell, Board of Directors, Blackfeet National Bank

10:30-11:30 a.m. **Federal Contracting Opportunities**
- Robert Neal, OSDBU, Department of Defense
- Sharron Harris, OSDBU, USDA
- Will Terry Moore, Associate Director, OSDBU, Department of Transportation
- Ken Robbins, President, Nat'l Center for American Indian Enterprise Development

12:15-1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**
- Honorable Ron Montoya, Governor, Santa Ana Pueblo
- Doug Geogo, President Hyatt Hotels, Inc.

1:30-2:30 p.m. **Afternoon Address**
- President William J. Clinton

3:00-4:15 p.m. **Breakout Session I**

- Session A: Franchising **McPherson-Franklin -5B Level**
  - Susan P. Kezios, President, Women in Franchising, Incorporated
  - Ron Matzner, Acting Associate General Counsel for Financial Law, SBA
  - Anita Cook Wells, Minority Business Development Agency, DOC
  - Richard Mike, Franchisee, Burger King, Navajo Nation
  - Jay Patel, President/CEO, Ashbury Suites & Inns, Pensacola, Florida
  - Bruce Major, Vice President, Sandella's Pita Wraps

- Session B: The Internet & Electronic Commerce **General Session**
  - Richard L. Stevens, Chief, Research Division
    Minority Business Development Agency, Department of Commerce
  - Michael Garcia, Chief, Information Technology Division
    Minority Business Development Agency, Department of Commerce

- Session C: Welfare to Work Initiatives **Constitution E,D,C -3B Level**
  - Thomas Dowd, Department of Labor (Moderator)
  - Betsy Myers, Deputy Administrator, Small Business Administration
  - Ray Apodaca, Division of Tribal Services, ACF, HHS
  - Leroy Bingham, President, Tribal Planning Services
  - Beth Meyers, Tribal Welfare-to-Work Consultant

- Session D: Tourism **Lafayette Park & Farragut Square -5B Level**
  - Dennis Moquino, Executive Director, NM Indian Tourism Assoc. (Moderator)
  - Michael J. Anderson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, DOI
  - Andrea Alexander, President, Chinook Wind Enterprises
  - Raymond Enfield, Jr. Director of Tourism, White Mt. Apache Tribe
  - B. Lynne Harlan, Dir., Cultural Resouces, Eastern Band of Cherokee
  - Charles Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer, Warm Springs

4:30-5:45 p.m. **Breakout Session II**

- Session E: Exporting **General Session**
  - Honorable Awilda Marquez, Director General, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, Department of Commerce (Moderator)
  - Frank Spector, International Trade Specialist, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, Department of Commerce
  - Honorable August Schumbacher, Jr., Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA
  - John Robben, Dir., Economic Development, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
  - Henry Duro, Chairman, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
  - Sandra Necessary, Manager, Santa Fe Export Assistance Center

- Session F: Communications & Technology **McPherson & Franklin**
  - Roanne Robinson, Special Asst. to the Asst. Secretary for Communications and Information, Department of Commerce
  - Eric Jensen, Deputy Director, Office of Communications, FCC
  - Darrell Gerlaugh, Chairman of the Board, Gila River Telecom., Inc.
  - Christopher McClean, Deputy Administrator, Rural Utility Service, USDA
  - Norman G. Wear, Ph.D., Program Expert, Office of the Comm'r, Federal Technology Service, GSA
  - Representative, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

- Session G: Diversifying Tribal Economies **Lafayette Park & Farragut Square**
  - Laura Harris, Executive Vice President, Americans for Indian Opportunity & Senior Consultant, President's Initiative on Race (Moderator)
  - Honorable Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair, Quinault Indian Nation
  - Honorable Roger Vicenti, Acting President, Jicarilla Apache Tribe
  - Roger Little, CEO, SPIRE, Inc.
  - Dave Archambault, Chairman, American Indian Business Leaders

- Session H: Manufacturing McPherson & Franklin **Constitution 3B Level**
  - Leonard Smith, Executive Director, Native American Manufacturers Network
  - Harold Buck Elk, Controller, West Electronics, Inc.
  - David Steffen, Markeing Director, Sioux Manufacturing Corp.
  - F. Jane Spriggs, Small Business Liaison, Lockheed Martin Corp.
  - Larry Halbig, Manager, BMP Field Support Office
  - Nick Sena, Director, Company Supplier Diversity Programs
  - Jean L. Gray, Small Business Liaison Analyst, Unisys Corp.

*** ***Individual Tribal & Business Consultations with Agency Personnel will occur in the Cabin John & Arlington Rooms on Level 3B. Scheduling of these sessions will be available through a sign-in sheet at the conference.***

This event is sponsored by the White House (Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Domestic Policy Council), the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, State, Transportation, the Treasury, and the Comptroller of the Currency, the Indian Health Service, and the Small Business Administration.

Building Economic Self-Determination in Indian Communities

August 5, 1998
Grand Hyatt Hotel
Washington, DC

7:30-8:15 a.m.	**Registration**
8:15-8:30 a.m.	**Opening** • Honorable John Steele, President, Oglala Sioux Tribe
8:30-9:00 a.m.	**Welcome and Conference Overview** • Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior • Introduced by Lynn Cutler, Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs
9:00-10:00 a.m.	**Indian Country Success Stories** • Honorable Kevin Gover, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs • Honorable Ivan Makil, Chairman, Salt River Pima Tribe • Honorable Phillip Martin, Chief, Mississippi Band of Choctaw • Connie Thomas, Raytheon Corporation
10:00-10:15 a.m.	**Break**
10:15-10:45 a.m.	**Commerce in Indian Country** • Honorable William Daley, Secretary of Commerce • Introduced by Honorable George Bennett, Chairman, Grand Traverse Band
10:45-11:45 a.m.	**Building Infrastructure & A Positive Climate for Business** • Manley Begay, Harvard Kennedy School of Government • Honorable Roland Johnson, Governor, Laguna Pueblo Tribe • Honorable Gary Kimble, Commissioner, ANA, HHS • Jacqueline L. Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Native American Programs, HUD • Phillip Singerman, Director, Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce
12:15-1:30 p.m.	**Luncheon Keynote** • Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs • Introduced by Honorable Marge Anderson, CEO, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
1:45-2:15 p.m.	**Tribal Self-Government & Economic Self-Determination** • Honorable Janet Reno, Attorney General • Introduced by Dr. Michael H. Trujillo, Director, Indian Health Service, HHS
2:15-3:15 p.m.	**Expanding Business Opportunities** • John T. Spotila, General Counsel, Small Business Administration • Courtland Cox, Director, MBDA, Department of Commerce • Peter Homer, Director, National Indian Business Association • Ron Sykes, Washington Director, General Motors Corp.
3:15-3:30 p.m.	**Break**
3:30-4:00 p.m.	**Small Business Administration** • Honorable Aida Alvarez, Administrator • Introduced by Honorable Kathryn Harris, Chair, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
4:00-4:30 p.m.	**Agriculture and Economic Development** • Honorable Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture • Introduced by Robert Miller, President, Intertribal Agriculture Council

4:30-5:30 p.m. **Rural Business**

- Jill Long Thompson, Under Secretary for Rural Development, USDA
- William F. Hagy, Deputy Administrator for Business Programs, Rural Business Cooperative Service, USDA
- Antone Minthorn, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Fred DuBray, InterTribal Bison Cooperative

5:30 p.m. **Department of Labor**

- Honorable Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor
- Introduced by Judith Winston, Executive Director, President's Initiative on Race

****

7:00-9:00 p.m. **Reception**

- Master of Ceremonies, Mickey Ibarra, Assistant to the President & Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
- Speaker: Honorable Dale Kildee, Co-Chair, Native American Caucus, U.S. House of Representatives
- Entertainment: "Indigenous" (Native American Band)

*** ***Individual Tribal & Business Consultations with Agency Personnel will occur in the Cabin John & Arlington Rooms on Level 3B. Scheduling of these sessions will be available through a sign-in sheet at the conference.***

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President Clinton
A Record of Partnership With American Indians and Alaska Natives

"My administration has worked in partnership with tribal leaders … to protect American Indian religious freedom, promote tribal self-determination, preserve tribal natural resources and provide economic opportunities for Native Americans. I look forward to continuing this government-to-government relationship in order to build on the progress we have made in Indian Country."

President Bill Clinton

On April 29, 1994, President Clinton became the first President to invite the leaders of all federally recognized Tribes to the White House. On this historic occasion, the President pledged that his Administration would work with Tribal leaders to establish a true government-to-government partnership. The Clinton Administration has delivered on this commitment by:

Strengthening the Relationship Between the Federal Government and Tribal Nations

- In 1994, executed a Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies directing agencies to consult, to the greatest extent practicable and to the extent permitted by law, with tribal governments prior to taking actions that affect federally recognized tribal governments.

- On May 14, 1998, issued an executive order that strengthens and makes effective across Administrations the 1994 Government-to-Government memorandum. This executive order serves to establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with Indian tribal governments in the development of regulatory practices on Federal matters that significantly or uniquely affect their communities, to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates upon Indian tribal governments, and to streamline the application process for and increase the availability of waivers to Indian tribal governments.

Expanding the role of American Indians and Alaska Natives throughout his Administration

- Appointed 59 Native Americans to all levels of his Administration, including 10 to top positions requiring Senate confirmation and 30 to Presidential appointment positions.

- Created the Office of Tribal Justice to promote government-to-government relations with Indian Tribes and ensure aggressive representation of tribal sovereignty in the courts.

- Established the American Indian Environmental Office to work with Tribes to protect water quality and the environment in Indian Country.

- Created a permanent White House working group composed of all Executive Branch Departments to advance Tribal sovereignty across the administration.

Protecting Religious Freedom

- Signed an executive order that requires federal agencies to accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and to avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

- Successfully fought for passage of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act Amendments and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act in order to protect the right of free exercise of Tribal religions.

- Directed federal agencies to ensure efficient collection and distribution of available eagle feathers and eagle parts to American Indians and Alaska Natives for traditional religious purposes.

Promoting Tribal Self-Determination

- Supported passage and implementation of the Indian Self-Determination Act and the Tribal Self-Governance Act, which give Tribal governments control of most federal resources spent within Indian Country.

- Successfully fought attempts to penalize tribes for exercising their powers of self-governance and allowing states to tax Tribal governments on new trust lands.

Increasing Educational Opportunities

- Proposed a 59% increase in funding for construction and facilities improvement and repair for Native American Schools in his FY 1999 budget.

- Provided an 10 percent increase (from $60 million to $66 million) for the Indian Education Act in his FY 1999 budget. Serving nearly half a million Native American students, the Act's programs include grants to Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Indian tribes and organizations, Indian-controlled schools, and individuals to address special educational and cultural academic needs of Native Americans.

- Signed an executive order that aims to ensure that tribal colleges and universities are more fully recognized as accredited institutions, have access to the opportunities afforded other institutions, and have Federal resources committed to them on a continuing basis.

Providing Economic Development Opportunities in Indian Country

- Established an Office of Native American Programs within the Minority Business Development Association at the Department of Commerce, with eight Native American Business Development Centers and a business consultant, that provides management and technical assistance to Native American businesses.

- Signed the Community Development Banking and Regulatory Improvement Act, which promotes more lending in Indian Country;

Protecting Tribal Natural Resources

- Established for the first time the right of Alaska Natives to fish for subsistence purposes.

- Requested more than $160 million (a 15 percent increase) in his FY 1999 budget for EPA supoort of tribal environmental protection programs on reservations. As a part of this program, EPA will continue to build an support tribal capacity to implement, operate, and enforce Federal environmental laws.

- Supported the exercise of Northwest Tribes' treaty fishing rights.

Improving Health and Safety for American Indian and Alaska Native Families

- Supported funding for continued implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act and tribal consensus amendments to protect Indian families and culture.

- Signed into law the Indian Tribal Justice Support Act to improve criminal law enforcement in Indian Country.

- Directed the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Interior to work with tribal leaders and propose improvements for public safety and criminal justice in Indian Country. As a result of this process, the President's FY 1999 budget contains a $182 million initiative within the Justice and Interior Departments to raise the level of law enforcement in Indian country to national standards.

- Devoted $54 million in his FY 1999 budget to hiring police officers through the COPS program exclusively in Indian country.

U.S. Census Bureau The Official Statistics

The American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut Population

EDNA L. PAISANO

The American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population has grown rapidly since 1970.

In the last two decades, the American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population grew rapidly. In 1970, this population numbered 827,000; it reached 1.4 million in 1980 and nearly 2 million in 1990. The 1990 census counted 1,878,285 American Indians, 57,152 Eskimos, and 23,797 Aleuts. Census Bureau estimates and projections suggest that on July 1, 1994, the American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population numbered 2.2 million, and that it will reach 4.3 million and just over 1 percent of the population by 2050.

The 72 percent increase between the 1970 and 1980 censuses and the 38 percent increase between the 1980 and 1990 censuses cannot be attributed only to natural increase. Other factors that may have contributed to the higher count of American Indians*1* include improvements in the question on race; improvements in the way the Census Bureau counted people on reservations, on trust lands, and in Alaska Native villages; continued use of self-identification to obtain information on race; a greater propensity in 1990 than in earlier censuses for individuals (especially those of mixed Indian and non-Indian parentage) to report themselves as American Indian; and improved outreach programs and promotion campaigns.

Nearly one-half of the American Indian population lives west of the Mississippi River.

Nearly one-half of the American Indian population lived in the West in 1990, 29 percent in the South, 17 percent in the Midwest, and 6 percent in the Northeast. Between 1980 and 1990, the proportion of American Indians increased noticeably only in the South, from 26 to 29 percent. In 1990, four States had an American Indian population over 100,000 - Oklahoma, California, Arizona, and New Mexico. The population in these four States comprised 42 percent of the total U.S. American Indian population. Oklahoma was the State with the largest American Indian population in 1990, climbing from second in 1980. Between 1980 and 1990, California dropped from first to second place, and Arizona and New Mexico stayed at third and fourth place, respectively.

The American Indian population is young.

Thirty-nine percent of the American Indian population was under 20 years old in 1990, compared with 29 percent of the Nation's total population. The median age in 1990 of the American Indian population was 26 years, considerably younger than the U.S. median age of 33 years. The comparable median ages in 1980 were 23 years and 30 years, respectively. The American Indian population is younger in part because of higher fertility rates than the total population.

Nearly two-thirds of American Indian families are married-coupled families.

About 6 in 10 of the Nation's 442,000 American Indian families were married-couple families in 1990, compared with about 8 in 10 of the Nation's 64.5 million families. The proportion of American Indian husband and wife families was 71 percent in 1980, compared

proportion of American Indian husband and wife families was 71 percent in 1980, compared with 82 percent of all husband and wife families. Consistent with the national trend, the proportion of American Indian families maintained by a female householder with no husband present increased during the last decade and reached 27 percent in 1990. This proportion was considerably larger than the national figure of 17 percent.

The educational attainment levels of American Indians has improved significantly.

In 1990, 66 percent of the 1,080,000 American Indians 25 years old and over were high school graduates or higher, compared with only 56 percent in 1980. Despite the advances, the 1990 proportion was still below that for the total population (75 percent). American Indians were also less likely than the entire U.S. population to have completed a bachelor's degree or higher. About 9 percent of American Indians completed a bachelor's degree or higher in 1990, compared with 8 percent in 1980 - still lower than the 20 percent for the total population in 1990.

American Indian family incomes were low.

The median family income in 1989 of all American Indian families declined from its 1979 level (1989 dollars) by 5 percent. In 1990, the median family income of American Indians was $21,750, about 62 percent of the $35,225 median for all families. The median income of American Indian married-couple families was $28,287 or 71 percent of the $39,584 median for all married-couple families. The median income for American Indian families maintained by a female householder with no husband present was $10,742, about 62 percent of the $17,414 median for all families maintained by women with no husband present.

More American Indian families and persons were in poverty, compared with all families and persons.

Between 1979 and 1989, the poverty rate increased for both American Indian families and persons.*2* Twenty-seven percent of American Indian families were poor in 1989, compared with 24 percent in 1979. This compared with a poverty rate of 10 percent for all families in both 1989 and 1979. In 1989, 50 percent of American Indian families maintained by females with no husband present were poor, compared with 31 percent of all families maintained by women with no husband present.

The 1980 and 1990 censuses show that the poverty rate for American Indians has remained considerably higher than that of the total population. In 1989, 31 percent of American Indian persons lived below the poverty level, up from 27 percent in 1979. The national poverty rate was about 13 percent in 1989 and 12 percent in 1979.

The number of American Indians living on reservations and trust lands varied considerably.

Of the 314 reservations and trust lands identified for the 1990 census, only the Navajo Reservation and Trust Lands located in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah had more than 100,000 American Indians - 143,405 lived there.

An additional nine reservations had more than 7,000 American Indians in 1990: Pine Ridge, NE-SD (11,182); Fort Apache, AZ (9,825); Gila River, AZ (9,116); Papago, AZ (8,480); Rosebud, SD (8,043); San Carlos, AZ (7,110); Zuni Pueblo, AZ-NM (7,073); Hopi, AZ (7,061); and Blackfeet, MT (7,025). The 218,320 American Indians living on these 10 reservations and trust lands accounted for about half of all American Indians living on reservations and trust lands.

Educational levels of American Indians differ among the reservations and trust lands.

Fifty-four percent of American Indians 25 years old and over living on all reservations and trust lands were high school graduates or more. Among the 10 largest reservations and trust

trust lands were high school graduates or more. Among the 10 largest reservations and trust lands, this proportion ranged considerably. Blackfeet (66 percent) and Hopi (63 percent) had similar proportions of high school graduates. Gila River, at about 37 percent, had the lowest proportion who had at least graduated from high school, followed by Navajo with 41 percent.

American Indians on reservations and trust lands had low per capita incomes.

The per capita income in 1989 was about $4,478 for American Indians residing on all reservations and trust lands, compared with $8,328 for all American Indians. The per capita income of American Indians on the 10 largest reservations ranged from about $3,100 on the Papago and Pine Ridge Reservations to over $4,500 on the Blackfeet ($4,718) and Hopi ($4,566) Reservations.

NOTE: The most recent data for the American Indian population are from the 1990 census. The Current Population Survey is not sufficiently large to provide reliable estimates for this population.

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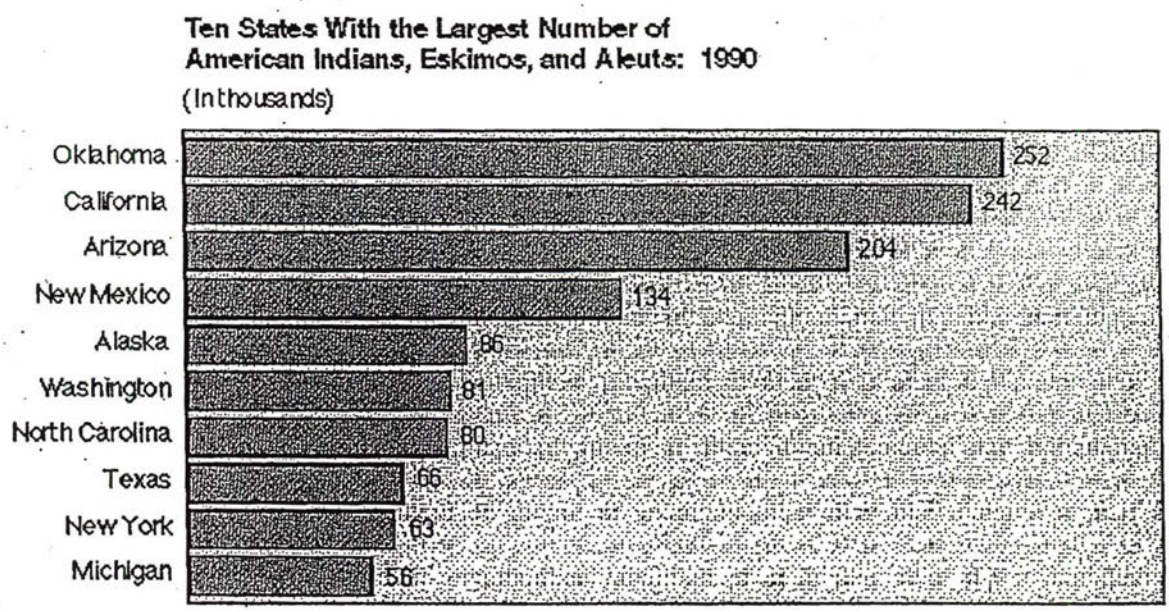
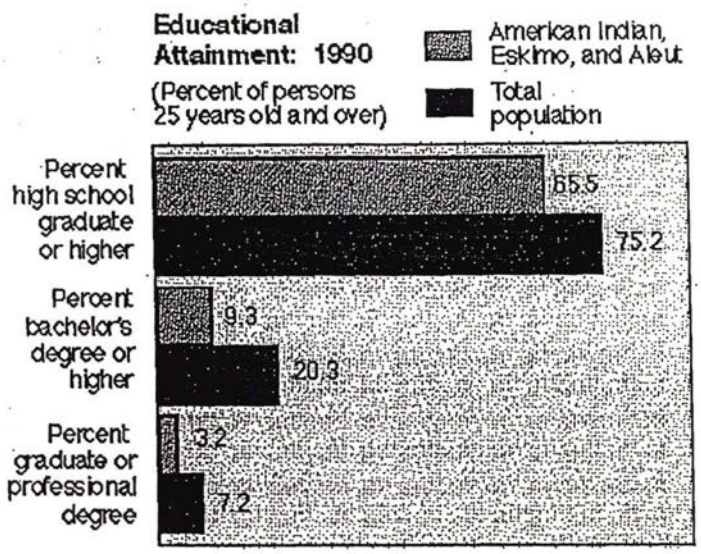
1 **In the text, American Indian represents American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts.**

2 **In 1989, the poverty threshold for a family of four was $12,674; unchanged from 1979 (in 1989 dollars).**





For Further Information:

See: 1990 CP-2-1, 1990 Census of Population, *Social and Economic Characteristics, United States Summary*. 1990 CP-2-1A, 1990 Census of Population, *Social and Economic Characteristics, American Indian and Alaska Native Areas.*

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Please email comments (Please include your telephone number) to: pop@census.gov

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Why this Initiative is Important

Key Facts About American Indian and Alaska Native Children and Youth

- Of the 1.43 million Indians living on or near reservations, *nearly 500,000 (29 percent) are under the age of 15.*
- Indian infants die from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) at a rate 1.8 times the rate for U.S. All Races infants, *2.1 compared to 1.2.*
- Indian deaths under age 25 are *13 percent compared to 4 percent* for U.S. All Races.
- *45 percent* of Indian mothers have their first child under age 20, *compared to 24 percent* for U.S. All Races mothers.
- The Indian population younger than 15 years is *33 percent in contrast to 22 percent* for the U.S. All Races population.
- Indians 25 years of age and older who are high school graduates or higher is *65 percent as compared to 75.2 percent* for the U.S. All Races population.
- *38 percent* of Indians aged 6 to 11 years live below the poverty level, *more than twice* the number for the U.S. All Races age group (*18 percent).*
- Indian males age 16 and older are *unemployed at a rate 2.5 times* that for the U.S. All Races male population. For females, the ratio is 2.2 to 1.
- *61 percent of juvenile delinquents* confined by the Federal Bureau of Prisons in 1994 *were Indians.*
- The alcoholism death rate for Indians 15 to 24 years of age is over *17 times the comparable rate for U.S. All Races, i.e., 5.2 versus 0.3.*
- The accident death rate for Indians aged 5 to 14 years is *nearly double* the corresponding U.S. All Races rate, *17.1 to 9.3.*
- The suicide death rate for 15 to 24 year old Indians is *2.4 times* the corresponding rate for U.S. All Races, *31.7 to 13.0.*
- The *second leading cause of death for Indians* 1-14 year-olds is homicide, ranging from *1.4 to 2.2 times* the corresponding rate for U.S. All Races. It is *the third leading cause of death* for 15 to 24 year-olds.
- More than 180 gangs have been identified in Indian country.